

Message Text

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11

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

NEA-10 /072 W

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R 241002Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5048

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 775

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, LT, XA, OAU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE UNGA SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL - SECRETARY'S JULY 14
SPEECH ON UN

REF: A. STATE 169463; B. STATE 170841

1. CHARGE AND IRO CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY J. L. MASITHELA (NO. 3 IN MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS), ASST. SECRETARY FOR WESTERN HEMISPHERE P. K. MOONYANE, AND OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICERS JULY 23 TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS REFTELS. MINISTER AND PERMSEC ARE ALREADY IN KAMPALA.

2. CHARGE OPENED DISCUSSION WITH POINTS OUTLINED PARA 3 REFTEL B, EXPRESSED CONCERNS PER REFTEL A, AND EXPRESSED HOPE GOL WOULD INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION TO KAMPALA TO OPPOSE ANY ACTION ON SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL. (HEAD OF GOL DELEGATION, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER 'MASERIBANE, DEPARTS FOR KAMPALA JULY 25).

3. MASITHELA SAID HE WOULD TAKE MATTER UP WITH PRIME MINISTER, AND THEN EXPRESSED THREE MAIN POINTS: (A) LESOTHO HAS BENEFITED FROM UN MEMBERSHIP EVER SINCE IT BECAME INDEPENDENT AND HAS GREAT INTEREST IN CONTINUATION AS AN EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION; (B) LESOTHO IS ONE OF FEW AFRICAN NATIONS MAINTAINING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL
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AND CONTINUES TO SUPPORT ISRAEL'S RIGHTS TO EXISTENCE AS INDEPENDENT,

SOVEREIGN STATE ; (C) HOWEVER, ARAB STATES HAVE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE IN OAU, LESOTHO HAS IMPORTANT INTEREST IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES, AND THESE FACTORS MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY GOL IN FORMULATING ITS POSITIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS A DIFFICULTISSUE FOR GOL TO COPE WITH HEAD ON. IN EMBASSY'S OPINION, GOL DELEGATION TO KAMPALA IS NOT LIKELY TO HAVE EITHER THE WILL OR THE MEANS TO MOUNT SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION TO ANY OAU CALL FOR SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL FROM UNGA.
HAUGHT

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